

e) calculating a size of the independent information comprising the digital watermark plus a size of an added hash value to determine a number of sample windows required to contain a complete watermark.

56. The method according to claim 55, further comprising the step of:

f) computing a secure one way hash function of the carrier signal data in said sample windows, wherein said hash function is insensitive to changes introduced into the carrier signal for the purpose of carrying digital watermark information.

57. The method according to claim 56, further comprising the step of:

g) concatenating the hash value with the independent information, creating an expanded, unique digital watermark.

58. The method according to claim 29, further comprising the step of:

b) obtaining a unique hash value contained in the independent information comprising part of the digital watermark.

59. The method according to claim 58, further comprising the additional step of:

c) re-processing sample windows in the sample stream which contained the decoded watermark

60. The method according to claim 59, further comprising the step of:

d) computing a secure one way hash function of the carrier signal data in said sample windows, wherein said hash function is insensitive to changes introduced into the carrier signal for the purpose of carrying digital watermark information.

61. The method according to claim 60, further comprising the step of:

e) comparing the computed hash value to the value contained in the watermark.

#### REMARKS

The specification and abstract have been amended as in the parent application. Claims 1-24 have been canceled and new claims 25-61 have been added. Examination of this

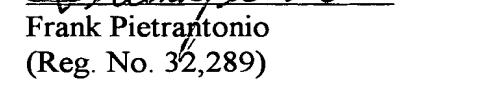
application in light of these amendments is respectfully requested.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 429-1776 to discuss any matter concerning this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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